

Taylor Park Parent Newsletter December 3, 2020

Keeping Relationships Positive

The school “rules” for Taylor Park are to be: Safe and Friendly. This applies to any situation whether it is lining up before school, in the classroom or halls, working on a computer, playing a game in the class or on the playground – in all these situations the expectation is that everyone will act in a safe and friendly way.

The challenge comes when someone does something we don’t expect or like or someone gets frustrated. In these instances, we teach our students to “Stop, Walk and Talk.” When someone does something, we don’t like we need to tell them (Stop), or they might not know or keep doing the same thing. We all want good relationships and telling people, in a clear and gracious way, that we don’t like something is important for any relationship to grow stronger and deeper. If they don’t stop, then we need to Walk away so that we don’t continue getting hurt or respond in anger and make the situation even worse. We also need to Talk to someone if the other person isn’t listening or someone is getting hurt.

Covid Safety Update

Thanks to the continued support of parents with keeping students at home when they or someone in the family has Covid symptoms! This is one of the most important safety steps and we are very thankful for the diligence of our parents. Please note that we are continuing to follow the [safety guidelines from Fraser Health](#).

Our sidewalk beside pod three is quite narrow and it can be impossible to pass other families and maintain two meters of distance so we would appreciate it if families using this route wear masks and maintain as much distance as possible. With our staggered start, families can also wait to the side until it is clear and not worry about having to rush to class for the bell. We have planted grass beside the pod one and two sidewalks in order to reduce the amount of dirt that is tracked in - this helps our floors stay clean and reduces coughing and sneezing. We have had fencing up while the grass is starting but will be removing that shortly. Please help us by staying on the sidewalk as much as possible - it helps the safety and cleanliness of our school.

There are lots of different views about mask-wearing and we are being diligent about following the Fraser Health guidelines. This includes providing an option for students to wear masks in the classroom, throughout the school and outside if students or families want this. The principal wears a mask in classrooms, in the hallways and even outside because he is not part of a learning group. Please note that even though they may be in learning groups, students of all grades are welcome to wear a mask in the school or outside if the student or family wants this.

Support for Families in our Community

This year our grade 6/7 students in Division 2 would like to support a local family in the adopt-a-family program from the Burnaby Christmas Bureau. Adopt-a-family is a program that connects families living in poverty over the Christmas season. This

includes providing food and gifts and other family needs to brighten their spirits. This year, because of the pandemic, more families need our help and cheer.

Donations can be made through [schoolcashionline](#). The deadline for donations is December 11th. Thank you for your support.

Counselor's Blog

Our school counsellor, Scott Anderson, provides information on parenting, mental health and community resources of interest to our families on his blog. Two of the recent entries you may be interested in are: [Flexible vs Fixed Thinking](#) and [Parenting: Supporting Children with Challenging Behaviours](#)

School Immunizations for the 2020/21 School Year

Public Health will commence the School Immunization Program for this year's Grade 6 and 9 students in January 2021. Public Health will also provide catch-up immunizations to students who did not complete their immunizations last school year or over the summer.

Report Cards for Burnaby Elementary Schools

This year all Burnaby Elementary Schools will two formal report cards (March and June) and three informal points of progress (September, December and April). Term 1 will be an informal point of progress and shared with parents during the week of December 14th, 2020. This informal report will focus on student engagement and behaviour. It will also contain individualized next steps or areas of improvement required to move forward in the school year. Your child's teacher may choose one of the following informal reporting practices for Term 1:

- Written Interim Report
- ePortfolio, paper portfolio, or Freshgrade based report
- Conference between parent, teacher and possibly the student

We thank you for being partners in your child's learning. We want you to know how your child is doing and have input on their learning. Please contact your child's teacher or me if you have questions or concerns.

Scouts Registration

This is a note to all parents/guardians of kids in grades k-4. The 76th Burnaby Scout Group is open for public registration for the 2021 Scouting Year (which starts in January 2021). We have a Beaver Colony (boys and girls aged 5-7) and a Cub Pack (girls and boys aged 8-10) that meet at 6pm every Tuesday at Ron McLean Park. Pre-Covid we met at Taylor Park itself, but these days we are 100% outside (or online)! The 76th is run by local parents and helps kids grow in their sense of adventure, resilience, and leadership.

Scouts Canada has a range of COVID19 safety protocols (staying outside and socially distant, for instance) that you can review at the [National Website](#). We meet outside, rain

or shine, and when the Province asks us to go into lockdown we have a ton of cool zoom activities to keep the kids active and connected. This week, for example, we strapped a few cameras on one of our Scout leaders and the kids had to tune in to guide him out of the forest safely. Hilarity ensued.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact [David Burns](#) (Commissioner, 76th Burnaby Scout Group). The 76th is, first and foremost, a community - so I am always pleased to speak with people interested in Scouting. The scouts will be holding studio days on Saturdays in January: Sat Jan 23, 2021: 10am - 2pm and Mon Jan 25, 2021: 12 - 4pm. Here is the link for booking:

<https://photoexpressions.ca/portraits/booking/studio-school-portraits-2020/>

Christmas Assembly by Zoom

Our next assembly will be on Friday, December 18th from 1:15-2:00 pm. Divisions 14-27 will be presenting a dance version of the Nutcracker, our Grade Seven Band will be playing and there will also be music and dance presentations for intermediate students. Parents and guests are welcome to join us. All participants [need to register](#) and will then get their own individual link (which can't be shared and will only work for one person at a time). This link will be able to be used for the whole year and is different than the link from last year.

School Donations Online During Covid

Every year we collect donations for the school during our Christmas Concerts - mainly to support our music program. In the past month we have used our donations for: clothing for needy families, classroom supplies for teachers and video equipment for assemblies. Thanks to the donations we have received over the past year we are able to buy the extra equipment and supplies needed for students to perform. If you wish to support us in this way you can make your donation through [schoolcashonline](#). Tax receipts for donations to the school larger than \$20 will be issued a tax receipt.

Money Found Near The School

If you lost some cash near the school, please call the office with details about the amount and what it was in and we will be able to return it to you.

PAC Update

All Taylor Park parents are welcome to join our PAC meetings on the last Thursday of each month at 7 pm. Our next meetings are:

- January 28th: 7pm General Meeting
- February 25th: 7pm General Meeting
- April 29th: 7pm General Meeting
- May 27th: 7pm PAC AGM Meeting

[Our PAC minutes and information is available on the PAC web site](#). The same link used for assemblies can be used for PAC meetings. [Register online and receive your link for all assemblies and PAC meetings](#).

Cobb's Bread Fundraiser

Our [Cobb's bread store on Marine Way](#) gives a portion of all purchases to Taylor Park if you mention the school when you make your purchase.

Upcoming Dates:

Week of December 14-18 – First term Interim Reports sent out

Friday, December 18 – 1:15-2:00 pm – Christmas Assembly by Zoom

December 21, 2020 – January 1, 2021 – Christmas/Winter Holiday – school closed

Monday, January 4, 2021 – First Day of School for 2021

Jan. 18 – Nov. 26 FSA Assessments (Postponed from October 5 to November 13)

February 15, 2021 – Family Day Holiday

February 26, 2021 – District Pro-D Day

March 15 – 26 Spring Break

You have previously provided consent for the school to send you electronic information related to your child's educational experience. To unsubscribe please contact the school office at 604-296-9034.